

Testimony before the Appropriations Committee
H.B. 7027 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM
ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR

February 23, 2017
Deborah Poirier Town of East Hartford, CT

Good afternoon Senator Formica, Senator Osten, Representative Walker, and Members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Deborah Poirier and I am a registered voter in the town of East Hartford.

I am here to testify in opposition of HB 7027 AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM ENDING JUNE THIRTIETH 2019, AND MAKING APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR in opposition to the cuts to the DMHAS budget.

I am a consumer of services at Inter Community in East Hartford. Inter Community has helped me a lot with my drinking and mental health problems like anxiety, depression and Bipolar. It is a place where I can go to talk to staff about my problem. I am not alone. It is a place where I'm safe. Not out hanging in the streets. They have many classes for us where we feel comfortable to talk to each other about our feelings. If we are having problems with our medication we have someone to go to for help.

Then there is our Clerical unit that teaches a variety of office programs on the computer. They help with housing and employment. I am now a certified WRAP 2 leader to the clients at Inter Community Common Ground.

I urge you to keep valuable services available to all residents of Connecticut who are in need like the Regional Mental Health Boards and CT Legal Rights Project that protect people's supports and rights.

Thank you for your help in this matter and for your attention to these important services and supports.